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00862.022324.

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Here Application of:)
KENICHI SAKUMA, et al.) Examiner: Dennis W. Ruhl
Application No.: 09/921,569) Group Art Unit: 3629
Filed: August 6, 2001)
For: EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT)
SYSTEM, EQUIPMENT)
MANAGEMENT APPARATUS,)
CONTROL METHOD THEREFOR,)
AND COMPUTER-READABLE)
MEMORY) July 10, 2007

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of documents (1) to (3) are enclosed.

- (1) JP 2001-338088
- (2) JP 2002-041690
- (3) "Daiichi-Denkasha Co., LTD., Household appliance repair on a nationwide scale-Yamato Transport Co., Ltd., to carry out collection and delivery", Nikkei Marketing Journal, Nikkei Inc., December 4, 1997, p.7

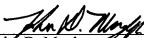
Documents (1) to (3) were cited during prosecution of a Japanese patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action, which is dated April 13, 2007, is enclosed. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

An English-language translation accompanies document (3), and English-language abstracts accompany each of documents (1) and (2). The concise explanation of relevance for each of the non-English language documents (1) to (3) is believed to be satisfied by the English-language translation and the English language abstracts. See MPEP § 609.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449 and returning the initialed form to Applicants with the next communication.


Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)		ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.022324.		APPLICATION NO. 09/921,569	
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE					
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)					
APPLICANT KENICHI SAKUMA, et al.				FILING DATE August 6, 2001	
				GROUP 3629	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS
					
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS
					SUBCLASS
					TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
/DR/		2001-338088	12/2001	Japan	
/DR/		2002-041690	02/2002	Japan	
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)					
/DR/		"Daiichi-Denkasha Co., LTD., Household appliance repair on a nationwide scale-Yamato Transport Co., Ltd., to carry out collection and delivery", Nikkei Marketing Journal, Nikkei Inc., December 4, 1997, p.7 (w/ English-language translation)			
EXAMINER	/Dennis Ruhl/			DATE CONSIDERED	01/21/2008

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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